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(54) IMPROVEMENTS IN OR RELATING TO SHOEMAKING

(71) We, THE BRITISH UNITED SHOE MACHINERY COMPANY LIMITED a British Company of Union Works, Belgrave Road in the City of Leicester, do hereby declare 5 the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particu-larly described in and by the following statement:

This invention is concerned with im-

provements in or relating to shoemaking.

The term "shoe" is used herein generically as including outer footwear generally, including boots, slippers and the like, and 15 is used to include the article during the course of its manufacture.

In the manufacture of shoes it is common practice to subject a shoe upper assembly to a heat treatment operation to 20 impart to the upper assembly some degree of shape retention. When the upper assembly comprises an upper of leather, water is often introduced into the leather prior to the heat treatment to make the 25 leather pliable whereby the upper may be more readily conformed to a desired shape. However, when the upper is of a synthetic plastics material, heat treatment alone is often sufficient to impart a required degree 30 of shape retention to the upper assembly.

We have found that many of the presently available apparatuses and methods for use in the heat treatment of shoe upper assemblies are for example either com-35 paratively time-consuming or impart to the upper assembly an insufficient degree of shape retention.

There will be described hereinafter, to illustrate the invention by way of example, 40 an illustrative method of shoe making, involving the heat treatment of a lasted shoe upper assembly, and two illustrative apparatuses by the use of either of which this illustrative method may be carried out.

Each of the two illustrative apparatuses [Price 25p]

is adapted for use in the moulding of shoe bottom units on to shoes and comprises a mould assembly comprising a plurality of mould members, including a sole mould member and two side mould members 50 mounted one either side of the sole mould member for movement between open and closed portions, which mould members are adapted to provide, when the side mould members are in their closed positions, a 55 mould cavity in the form of a shoe bottom unit, and a foot form suitable for use in conjunction with the mould assembly and comprising electrical heaters adapted to heat the foot form on which foot form a 60 shoe upper assembly may be mounted, said foot form being movable relative to the mould assembly from a retracted position separated from the mould members to an advanced position in cooperation with the 65 mould members in which position the foot form and a shoe upper assembly mounted

thereon closes the mould cavity. Each of the two illustrative apparatuses comprises heating means comprising two 70 heating devices mounted one on either side of the sole mould member and positioned in a manner such that when the side mould members are in their closed positions heat may be directed by the heating devices on to side portions at least of an upper assembly mounted on a foot form in its advanced position: the heating means may, if desired, comprise further heating devices to direct heat on to toe and heel portions of the upper assembly. Each of the heating means is so constructed and arranged as to not touch the upper assembly during operation of the illustrative apparatuses. The heating devices of both 85 the illustrative apparatuses are adapted to direct radiant heat on to outer surfaces of the upper assembly to heat the side por-tions of the upper assembly to a temperature higher than that to which the foot 90

form is heated: however under certain circumstances it may be desirable that heating devices adapted to direct hot air on to

the upper assembly be used.

In the use of both the illustrative apparatuses, a shoe upper assembly is mounted on the foot form which is then moved to its advanced position, either before closing of the side mould members in a side-10 closure sequence or after closing of the side mould members in a top-closure sequence. On completion of closing of the mould cavity, a fluid moulding material is injected by injection mechanism of the ap-15 paratus into the mould cavity in a moulding operation to provide, on solidification, a shoe bottom unit attached to the bottom of the shoe upper assembly.

The heating means of each of the two 20 illustrative apparatuses comprises a control device upon actuation of which in the use of the apparatus the heating devices are caused to direct heat on to the outer surfaces of the said side portions of an upper 25 assembly closing the mould cavity. In the first illustrative apparatus, the control de-

vice is actuated by completion of closing of the mould cavity, either on completion of closing of the side mould members if the 30 foot form is moved to its advanced posi-tion prior to closing of the side mould members in a side-closure sequence, or on completion of movement of the foot form to its advanced position if the side mould

35 members are moved to their closed posi-tions prior to movement of the foot form to its advanced position in a top-closure sequence: in the second illustrative apparatus, the control device is actuated on 40 operation of sensing mechanism operative to detect filling of the mould cavity with

fluid moulding material to terminate operation of the injection mechanism.

The heating means also comprises an 45 adjustable time device. In addition to actuation of the control device causing the heating devices to be switched on, such actuation starts the time device. After the elapse of the period of time to which the 50 time device is set, the time device switches off the heating devices. Thus, during an initial part of the moulding operation (either in the case of the first illustrative apparatus immediately prior to, and during, in-55 jection of fluid moulding material into the closed mould cavity or in the case of the second illustrative apparatus immediately subsequent to completion of such injection and while the mould cavity remains closed 60 by the upper assembly on the footform) the heating devices direct radiant heat on to the said side portions of the upper as-sembly, and after elapse of said period of time, during a latter, remaining part of the 65 moulding operation, the upper assembly is

allowed to cool to the temperature of the foot form.

In carrying out the illustrative method of shoe making, either of the two illustrative apparatuses may be used. Firstly, a shoe 70 upper assembly comprising a fleece-lined vinyl upper is mounted on the foot form which is heated. The foot form is moved to its advanced position, and the side mould members are moved to their closed 75 positions, in a side-closure sequence, closure portions of the side mould members engaging the upper assembly around the feather line thereof, such movement of the side mould members causing movement 80 of the heating devices from inoperative to operative positions. On completion of closing movemnet of the side mould members, the moulding operation is commenced, fluid moulding material being injected by the injection mechanism into the mould cavity. During part of the moulding operation, specifically during an initial part thereof, the heating devices direct radiant heat on to outer surfaces of side portions 90 of the upper assembly and, to a lesser extent, to toe and heel portions thereof, for a period of time of about 15 seconds, heating (in conjunction with the hot foot form) the upper to a temperature at which the upper 95 sortens and contracts and confours to the shape of the foot form. After the elapse of the period of time to which the time deice is set, the time device causes the heating devices to be switched off, and the 100 upper assembly is allowed to cool. Cooling of the upper assembly may if desired be expedited by the direction of cool air on to the side portions thereof, and/or by cooling of the foot form. By the time the fluid 105 moulding material in the mould cavity has solidified during the remainder of the moulding operation, the upper has reached a temperature (approximately the temperature of the foot form) at which it is 110 physically stable and retains the shape imparted to it.

In the first illustrative apparatus, the heating devices are fixed one to each of the side mould members. However, the 115 second illustrative apparatus comprises two carrier members one mounted on each side of the sole mould member, the side mould members being mounted one on each of the carrier members. Each heating device 120 is also mounted one on each carrier member, and the carrier members are movable between first positions in which the side mould members are in their closed positions and second positions in which the 125 side mould members are in their open positions.

When the carrier members are in their first positions, the heating devices are in their operative positions close to the upper 130 assembly in which positions they are adapted to direct radiant heat on to the side portions of the upper assembly. On movement of the carrier members to their second positions, the heating devices are moved generally widthwise of the mould cavity to inoperative positions remote from the upper assembly, such movement of the carrier members moving the heating devices apart a greater distance than that through which the side mould members are moved.

The second illustrative apparatus is particularly advantageous in that the mould members of the mould assembly may be replaced by other mould members with a minimum of inconvenience caused by the heating devices. Additionally, such mounting of the heating devices is more convenient for the use of a foot form assembly comprising two foot forms at least the assembly being rotatably mounted for movement about an axis lying in a plane which extends lengthwise of the mould 25 cavity whereby each foot form in turn may be moved, by rotation of the foot form assembly about said axis, from a loading position into the retracted position preparatory to being moved towards the 30 mould assembly to the advanced position.

This invention provides a method of moulding a shoe bottom unit on to a shoe upper assembly comprising injecting a fluid moulding material into a mould cavity in 35 the form of a shoe bottom unit the cavity being closed by the upper assembly mounted on a footform, and during injection of the fluid moulding material or immediately subsequent to completion of 40 injection of the fluid moulding material while the mould cavity remains closed by the upper assembly on the foot form directing heat on to an outer surface of side portions at least of the upper assembly.

45 The invention also provides apparatus for use in the moulding of shoe bottom units on to shoes and comprising (a) a mould assembly adapted to provide a mould cavity in the form of a shoe bottom unit which mould cavity may be closed by a shoe upper assembly mounted on a foot form, and (b) heating means adapted to direct heat on to outer surfaces of side portions at least of a shoe upper assembly 55 closing the mould cavity, the heating means being so constructed and arranged as to not touch the upper assembly.

There now follows a detailed description, to be read with reference to the drawings 60 accompanying the provisional specifications, of the illustrative apparatuses and of the illustrative method of shoemaking. It will be appreciated that both the apparatuses and the method have been selected 65 to illustrate the invention by way of ex-

ample only, and not by way of limitation thereof.

In the drawings accompanying application No. 49394/70:

Figure 1 is a simplified perspective view 70 of part of the first illustrative apparatus; and

Figure 2 is a simplified sectional view taken along the line II-II of Figure 1.

In the drawing accompanying application 75 No. 60864/70:

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the second illustrative apparatus.

Each of the first and the second illustrative apparatus is similar in certain aspects to the machine described by way of example in U.K. Patent Specification No. 1150601 to which reference may be made for details of certain parts of the illustrative apparatus not described in detail 85 herein, and is adapted for use in the moulding of shoe bottom units onto shoes.

The first illustrative apparatus comprises a mould assembly 10, a base plate 8 on which the mould assembly 10 is mounted, 90 a foot form 30 suitable for use with the mould assembly 10, injection mechanism (not shown) and heating means.

The mould assembly 10 comprises a plurality of mould members including a sole mould member 12 secured to the base plate 8 and two side mould members 14 and 16 slidably mounted on the base plate 8 one either side of the sole mould member 12 for movement between open positions separated from the sole mould member 12 and closed positions (shown in the drawings) in which the mould members cooperate to provide a mould cavity 18 in the form of a shoe bottom unit, (see 105 Figure 2).

The foot form 30 is adapted to support a lasted shoe upper assembly, and is one of a pair of opposed foot forms of a foot form assembly rotatably mounted for 110 movement about an axis lying in a plane extending at right angles from the base plate lengthwise of the mould cavity, said axis extending downwardly at 15° to the horizontal towards an operator standing in 115 front of the machine. By rotation of the foot form assembly about said axis, each foot form in turn may be moved between a loading position, in which an upper assembly may conveniently be mounted on 120 the foot form, and a retracted position opposite, and separated from, the mould assembly 10. By movement of the foot form assembly vertically towards the mould assembly, a foot form may be carried from 125 its retracted position into an advanced position in cooperation with the mould assembly in which advanced position the foot form together with a shoe upper assembly mounted thereon closes the mould cavity.

Each foot form of the foot form assembly is adapted to support a lasted shoe upper assembly and comprises heaters adapted to heat the foot form and maintain 5 the foot form hot, said heaters being provided by thermostatically-controlled heating elements 32 (only one of which, is shown, (see Figure 2) and electrical connectors 34 which in the use of the appar-10 atus are connected to a supply of elec-

The illustrative apparatus may be used in a side-closure sequence, in which one of the foot forms is moved from its retracted 15 to its advanced position prior to movement of the side mould members to their closed positions, welt closure portions 15, 17 of the side mould members 14, 16 respectively engaging the feather line of the 20 upper assembly on movement of the side mould members to their close positions, or in a top-closure sequence in which the foot form is moved to its advanced position subsequent to movement of the side 25 mould members to their closed positions, the upper assembly being moved into a sealing engagement with the welt closure portions of the side mould members.

On completion of closing of the mould 30 cavity, a moulding operation is commenced in which the injection mechanism injects fluid moulding material, provided by molten p.v.c., into the mould cavity. Sensing mechanism of the mould assembly is oper-35 ative to detect filling of the mould cavity with p.v.c. to terminate operation of the injection mechanism. On solidification of the p.v.c. a moulded shoe bottom unit attached to the bottom of the shoe upper assembly

40 is provided.

The heating means of the first illustrative apparatus comprise two radiant heating devices 22, 24 each comprising a reflector plate and two "Mazda" ("Mazda" 45 is a Registered Trade Mark) infra-red quartz heating elements 23, 23; 25, 25 respectively, each heating element operating at 120 volt/500 watt. The heating devices are mounted one on each side of the sole 50 mould member 12 and are movable generally widthwise of the mould cavity between inoperative positions separated from each other and operative positions in which they are adapted to direct radiant heat on to 55 the outer surface of side portions of a shoe upper assembly mounted on a foot form in its advanced position, and to a lesser extent on to the outer surface of toe and heel portions thereof, and are so arranged that on movement of the side mould members 14, 16 to their closed positions the heating devices are moved to their operative positions, and on movement of the side mould members to their open positions the heat-65 ing devices are moved to their inoperative

positions.

In the use of the first illustrative apparatus, subsequent to completion of closing of the mould cavity and during part at least of the moulding operation, specifically 70 during an initial part thereof, the heating devices are switched on to heat, together with the hot foot form, the upper assembly to a temperature in excess of that to which the foot form is heated. After the elapse of 75 a pre-selected period of time, the heating devices are switched off, and during a latter part of the moulding operation, the upper assembly is allowed to cool.

The second illustrative apparatus is 80 similar in construction and operation to the first illustrative apparatus, as hereinabove described, the same numerals denoting like parts of both illustrative apparatuses but with those of the second illustrative appar- 85 atus being given the suffix a, (see Figure

In the first illustrative apparatus (see Figure 2), the heating devices 22, 24 are fixed, one to each of the side mould mem- 90 bers 14, 16, respectively, by winged bolts 28. The control device comprises a microswitch 40 mounted on the side mould member 14, and a contact bracket 42 mounted on the side mould member 16 in 95 a position such that on movement of the side mould members into their closed positions the bracket 42 contacts the microswitch 40. When the first illustrative apparatus is being used in a side-closure 100 sequence, such contact, signalling complete closing the mould cavity, actuates the control device to switch on the heating devices 22 and 24 and to start a time device of the heating means. After elapse of the period 105 of time to which the time device is set (during an initial part of the injection operation) the time device operates to switch the heating devices off.

When the apparatus is being used in a 110 top-closure sequence, selection means thereof over-rides the micro-switch 40 and actuation of the control device is caused by engagement of a second micro-switch (not shown) on completion of movement of 115 the foot form into its advanced position.

In the use of the first illustrative apparatus, the side mould members 14, 16 are connected directly to side mould closing mechanism of the apparatus, and the heat- 120 ing devices 22, 24, being fixed to the side mould members 14, 16, are carried directly between their operative and inoperative positions by movement of the side mould members between their closed and open 125 positions.

The second illustrative apparatus (Figure 3) comprises two carrier members 106, 108 slidably mounted, one either side of the sole mould member 12a, on guides 110 130

provided on the base plate 8a. Each of the side mould members 14a, 16a of the mould assembly 10a of the second illustrative apparatus is mounted on one of the 5 carrier members 106, 108, respectively, and in the use of the apparatus mould closing mechanism thereof moves the carrier members between first and second positions, carrying the side mould members between 10 their closed and open positions.

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The heating means of the second illustrative apparatus comprises two radiant heating devices 22a, 24a one mounted on each side of the sole mould member 12a, 15 mounted one on each carrier member.

Each carrier member comprises brackets 122, 122 extending out and upwards therefrom. Each heating device 22a, 24a comprises two angled arms 128, 128 20 each pivotally mounted on one of the brackets 122, and the radiant heating elements (not shown) of the heating device 22a and the radiant heating elements 25a of the heating device 24a extend generally 25 lengthwise of the mould assembly between upper portions of the arms 128.

A lower portion 132 of each of the arms 128 is provided with an elongated slot 134. Fixedly mounted on the base plate 8a, 30 each comprising an arm 140 extendig adjacent one of the slots 134, are four brackets 138. Each arm 140 is provided with a pin 142 which extends into the slot 134 of the adjacent arm 132, all four pins lying in 35 a plane parallel to the base plate and lying below the levels of the pivots of the four

angled arms 128.

On movement of the carrier members 106, 108 towards their first positions, the 40 pins 142 restrain the lower portions 132 of the angled arms 128 and the heating devices 22a, 24a pivot, about parallel axes, about the mounting of the brackets 122 towards the foot form.

In the use of the second illustrative apparatus, on movement of the carrier members into their first positions to carry the side mould members into their closed positions to complete closing of the mould cav-50 ity in a side-closure sequence, the heating devices 22a, 24a move generally widthwise of the mould cavity about the pivotal mountings of the brackets 122 into their operative positions, in which they are ad-55 apted to direct radiant heat on to the outer surface of side portions at least of an upper assembly on the foot form in the advanced position.

In the second illustrative apparatus, the 60 control device of the heating means is actuated by a signal from the sensing mechanism of the mould assembly on filling of the mould cavity with moulding material to terminate operation of the in-65 jection mechanism: the heating devices 22a, 24a are thus switched on, and direct radiant heat on to the outer surfaces of the side portions of the upper assembly on the foot form during that initial part of the moulding operation immediately sequent to completion of injection of moulding material into the mould cavity. On actuation of the control device, the time device is started, and after the elapse of the pre-selected period of time, the heat-ing devices are switched off. During the remaining, latter part, of the moulding operation, the upper assembly cools.

On completion of cooling of the moulding material, the carrier members 106, 108 are 80 moved to their second positions, carrying the side mould members 14a, 16a to their open positions and moving the heating devices 22a, 24a about the pivotal mountings of the brackets 122 into their inoperative 85 positions, the heating devices moving apart a distance, generally widthwise of the mould cavity, greater than that moved by the side mould members.

The foot form 30a is lifted from its ad- 90 vanced to its retracted position with a completed shoe thereon, and the foot form assembly is rotated about its axis to carry the said foot form to its loading position at which the completed shoe is slipped from 95 the foot form.

In carrying out the illustrative method of shoemaking, either of the two illustrative apparatuses may be used. A flat-lasted shoe upper assembly A, comprising a vinyl 100 upper u, a fleece lining L and an insole Iis mounted on the foot form 30 in the loading position, the foot form 30 being heated by the heating elements 32 to about 90°C. The foot form is moved to its re- 105 tracted and then to its advanced position and the side mould members 14 and 16 are moved to the closed positions in a side-closure sequence, such movement of the side mould members causing movement 110 of the heating devices to their operative positions.

On completion of closing of the side mould members a moulding operation is commenced which moulding operation in- 115 volves the injection of molten p.v.c. by the injection mechanism into the mould cavity 18, and cooling and solidification of the p.v.c. to provide a moulded shoe bottom unit attached to the upper assembly A.

During an initial part of the moulding operation, the heating devices are switched on and direct radiant heat on to side por-

tions of the upper assembly A.

When the first illustrative apparatus is 125 used in carrying out the illustrative method, on completion of closing of the side mould members, the bracket 42 contacts the micro-switch 40 causing actuation of the control device to switch on the heat- 130

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ing devices, whilst the foot form is still in a heated condition, for a period of time determined by the time device, the heating devices so directing radiant heat im-5 mediately subsequent to closing of the mould cavity and during injection of fluid moulding material into the mould cavity. When the second illustrative apparatus is used in carrying out the illustrative used in carrying out the illustrative 10 method, on completion of filling of the mould cavity, the sensing mechanism causes termination of the injection of moulding material and causes actuation of the control device to switch on the heating 15 devices for said period of time. The time device is so set that the period of time for which the heating devices so direct radiant heat is sufficient for the upper to be heated, by both the foot form and the 20 heating devices, to a temperature at which the upper softens and contracts, conforming as it does so to the shape of the foot form. After the elapse of this period of time, the time device switches the heat-25 ing devices off. During the remainder of the moulding operation, during which the injected p.v.c. is solidifying, the upper is allowed to cool to a temperature approximately that of the foot form at which 30 it is physically stable and may be removed from the foot form. Such cooling may if desired be facilitated by directing cool air onto the upper assembly, or by switching off the heating elements 32 and ap-35 plying a cooling fluid to the interior of the

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

foot form.

1. A method of moulding a shoe bottom unit on to a shoe upper assembly 40 comprising injecting a fluid moulding material into a mould cavity in the form of a shoe bottom unit the cavity being closed by the upper assembly mounted on a footform, and during injection of the fluid 45 moulding material or immediately subsequent to completion of injection of the fluid moulding material while the mould cavity remains closed by the upper assembly on the footform directing heat on

of the upper assembly.

2. A method according to claim 1 wherein the footform is heated during the moulding operation whereby to heat an

50 to an outer surface of side portions at least

55 inner surface of the upper assembly.
3. A method according to either one of claims 1 and 2 wherein the mould cavity is provided by a mould assembly comprising mould members movable relative to each other between open and closed positions in which closed positions the mould assembly provides said mould cavity.

A method in accordance with claim
 wherein the heat is directed on to the
 said side portion for a pre-selected time

immediately subsequent to closing of the mould cavity.

5. A method in accordance with any one of the preceding claims wherein during a latter part of the moulding operation the 70 said side portions of the upper assembly are cooled, or are allowed to cool.

6. A method in accordance with any one of the preceding claims wherein the heat directed on to the said side portions 75 is radiant heat.

7. Apparatus for use in the moulding of shoe bottom units on to shoes and comprising (a) a mould assembly adapted to provide a mould cavity in the form of a 80 shoe bottom unit which mould cavity may be closed by a shoe upper assembly mounted on a foot form, and (b) heating means adapted to direct heat on to outer surfaces of side portions at least of a shoe 85 upper assembly closing the mould cavity, the heating means being so constructed and arranged as to not touch the upper assembly.

8. Apparatus in accordance with claim 90 7, wherein the mould assembly comprises a sole mould member and two side members mounted one either side of the sole mould member for movement relative thereto between open and closed positions in which closed positions of the side members the mould assembly provides said mould cavity, the heating means comprising two heating devices one mounted on each of the side members.

9. Apparatus in accordance with claim 8 wherein each heating device is fixed relative to its associated side member.

10. Apparatus in accordance with claim wherein the mould assembly comprises 105 (a) a sole mould member; (b) two carrier members mounted one either side of the sole mould member; and (c) two side members one mounted on each of the carrier members, the heating means comprising 110 two heating devices one mounted on each of the carrier members, the carrier members being movable between first positions in which the side members are in closed positions engaging the sole mould member 115 and providing together with the sole mould member said mould cavity and second position in which the side members are in open positions separated from the sole mould member, movement of the carrier 120 members from their first to their second position moving the heating devices from operative positions in which they are adapted to direct heat onto the said side portions of a shoe upper assembly closing the 125 mould cavity to inoperative positions remote from said upper assembly.

11. Apparatus in accordance with one of claims 8 and 10 wherein on movement of the side members from their closed to 130

their open positions the heating devices are moved apart a greater distance than that through which the side members are which through moved.

12. Apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 8, 10 and 11 wherein on movement of the side members from their closed to their open positions, the heating devices are moved linearly apart, generally 10 widthwise of the mould cavity, and pivotally, in opposite directions, about parallel axes extending generally lengthwise

of the mould cavity. 13. Apparatus in accordance with any 15 one of claims 9, 10, 11 and 12 wherein the heating means comprises a time device and a control device, upon actuation of which control device the heating devices are switched on and direct heat to the said 20 side portions of an upper assembly closing the moud cavity for a period of time de-termined by the time device.

14. Apparatus in accordance with claim 13 comprising a foot form mounted for 25 movement relative to the mould assembly between a retracted position separated from the mould assembly and an advanced position in which the foot form and a shoe upper assembly thereon close the mould 30 cavity, the control device being actuated either on completion of movement of the side members into their closed positions when the apparatus is used in side-closure sequence or on completion of movement of 35 the foot form into its advanced position when the apparatus is used in a topclosure sequence.

15. Apparatus in accordance with claim 14 comprising injection mechanism adapted 40 to inject a fluid moulding material into the mould cavity when closed by a shoe upper assembly, the mould assembly comprising

sensing mechanism operative to detect fil-ling of the mould cavity with fluid mould-45 ing material to terminate injection of moulding material into the mould cavity, said sensing mechanism also being operative on such detection to actuate the control device.

16. Apparatus for use in the moulding of shoe bottom units on to shoes and comprising (a) a mould assembly adapted to provide a mould cavity in the form of a shoe bottom unit, (b) a foot form adapted 55 to support a shoe upper assembly and

mounted for movement relative to the mould assembly between retracted and advanced positions in which advanced position the foot form and a shoe upper as-

sembly mounted thereon are adapted to 60 close the mould cavity, and (c) two heating devices mounted one enither side of the mould assembly and adapted to direct heat on to opposite side portions of an upper assembly mounted on the foot form when 65 in its advanced position without touching the upper assembly, said heating devices being mounted for movement generally widthwise of the mould cavity between operative positions close to the upper assembly and inoperative positions separated therefrom.

17. Apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 comprising a foot form mounted for movement 75 relative to the mould assembly between a retracted position separated from the mould assembly and an advanced position in which the foot form and a shoe upper assembly thereon are adapted to close the 80 mould cavity.

18. Apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 14, 15, 16 and 17 comprising

heaters to heat the foot form.

19. Apparatus in accordance with any 85 one of claims 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 wherein the foot form is part of a foot form assembly comprising two foot forms at least the assembly being rotatably mounted for movement about an axis lying 90 in a plane which extends lengthwise of the mould cavity whereby each foot form in turn may be moved, by rotation of the foot form assembly about said axis, into a retracted position preparatory to being 95 moved towards the mould assembly to an advanced position.

20. A method of shoemaking when carried out substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings ac- 100 companying the provisional specifications.

21. Apparatus constructed arranged and adapted to operate substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings accompanying patent applica- 105 tion No. 49394/70.

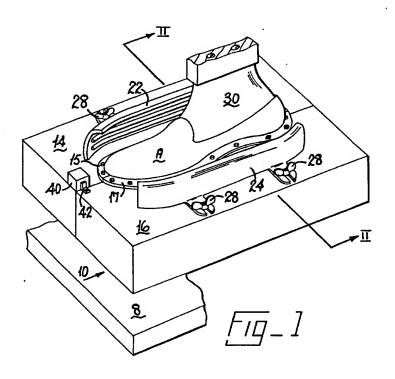
22. Apparatus constructed and adapted to operate substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the drawings accompanying patent applica- 110 tion No. 60864/70.

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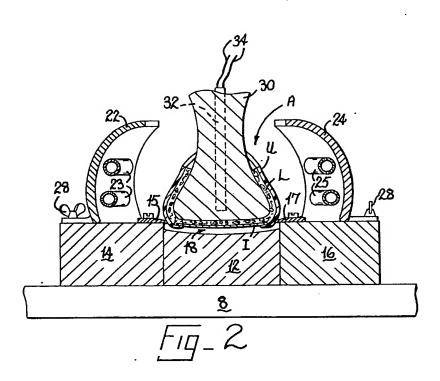
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